G. R. S. 58]

Previous references.

File No. 67 of 14.

1914.

(Edn.)

Serial Nos. 3.

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 3.

Part B for July, 1915

SUBJECT.

Explanation of the method of finding the ratio of the age of School-going Children to the total population

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GPB—10,000—26-8-15

B. IV. Sd Tarachand 10/8 August 1915.

G R.S. 11] 1914.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Edn)

NOTES.

File No. 67 of 14

FILE HEADING.

Educational Statistics.

From

The Spl. Asst. to The D.P. of Edn

Do. No. 876 Dated 21./1./15 Received

Diary No. 3439	Enclos.	Spare Copies.	Serial No. 3.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Explains the method adopted to calculate the ratio of the number of children of School-age to the total population.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Secy's order:- 'Vl file for ref^e.'

Do. C.S.B. 5.7.15.

Submd. for perusal before filing

BP 7.7.15.

Asst 9.7

[redacted]

B

NOTES—First Sheet.

GPB—35,000 15 6 12

D. O. 876

DIARY NO. 473439

SEC

GENERAL No.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF EDUCATION
IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, 21st January 1915.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter No.164 dated 16th Janurry 1915, I beg to point out that the number of children of school-going age was first proposed to be taken at 15 per cent. of the total population, by the Indian Education Commission of 1882. (Vide Report, page 28). It was then adopted by the Governments of India and Mysore.

That this was somewhat arbitrarily fixed and that actual figures do not tally are generally admitted. The Inspector General of Education in Mysore has drawn attention to this fact in his Report to Government. (Vide page Report on Public Instruction in Mysore, 1891-92).

Again, the school-going age is generally taken to be 5 to 15. But pupils much older, in the High Schools and Colleges, are taken into account, when the number under instruction is calculated.

So, neither is the percentage, nor are the figures furnished under population of "school-going" age quite

accurate.

The reason for arriving at the figure 15 per cent. is thus given in the Education Commission Report:-

"In European countries it is usual to take the children of school-going age at one-sixth of the entire population, so that, in round numbers one child should be at school for every six persons of the population. It would, however, be misleading to apply the same ratio to an Oriental Country, where the great bulk of the population, estimated at 65.5 of the whole, is agricultural. Moreover the poverty of the country must form an important consideration. Not only is the duration of the school going age necessarily shorter than in Europe, but, as a matter of fact, millions of peasant families depend on the labour of the children, in order to raise sufficient food to keep them alive during the year. The ratio of one child at school to six persons of population implies a standard of comforts and civilization unknown in India. Again, education in most European countries is compulsory by Law but having regard to the property and actual education requirements of the great bulk of the population of

India, the commission declined even to enter into the question of a Compulsory Education Act, which must at least be preceded by the provision of adequate school accommodation. We have adopted 15 per cent as on the whole, affording the best estimate of the children of school-going age."

So much for the European and the Indian percentages in 1882. Considerable change must have come over the countries during the past 33 years -a full generation. So far as Mysore is concerned, the population at the last Census was 57,05,359 and the number of children at ages 5 to 15 was 14,48,329, which gives a percentage of 25.4.

As regards the ages of school going children, I have to point out that there is no uniformity even in Western countries. They vary from 6 to 21. (Vide Cyclopaedia of Education Articles "Attendance and School Census").

The necessity for correct figures has been most keenly felt in all the countries that have adopted compulsory

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Compulsory Education.

Yours sincerely,

M. Ibrahimsaheb

Special Assistant to the
Inspector General of Education.

To

C.S. Balasundaram Iyer, Esq., B.A.,
Secretary to the Covernment of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Departments of Education & Agriculture
BANGALORE.

Ex 17 wbt